

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-10 ISO-00 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01 EB-08
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R 261451Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2091
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1180

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE
FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING - KABUL

REF: STATE 97545

1. I HAD OPPORTUNITY AT CONCLUSION OF EXTAFFMIN ARCHIE
MOGWE'S BRIEFING OF SELECTED DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES CONCERN-
ING MUZOREWA VISIT (SEPTTEL) TO SPEAK TO HIM ABOUT OUR INTEREST
IN KABUL MEETING (REFTTEL). MOGWE IS LEAVING THIS WEEK TO
VISIT KOREA PRIOR TO GOING TO KABUL.

2. GIVEN LACK OF TIME, I QUICKLY NOTED POINTS OF PARTICULAR
INTEREST TO US (IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFTTEL). BEFORE I FIN-
ISHED, MOGWE ASKED IF KOREA WAS ON THE LIST. I SAID IT WAS,
NOTING OUR HOPE THAT PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED WOULD BE
GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE. MOGWE MADE CUSTOMARY
JOKING REFERENCE TO "OCCUPATION TROOPS" IN KOREA. I REPLIED
I HAD RECOMMENDED THAT EMBASSY SEOUL SEEK THROUGH ROK HOSTS
OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT U.S. POINT OF VIEW. MOGWE SAID
HE WOULD BE GLAD TO HAVE OCCASION TO MEET AND DISCUSS
KOREA WITH A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN SEOUL.
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3. BACKGROUND. MOGWE RELATED TO ME EARLIER THE UNUSUAL
"AND QUITE UNPROTOCOL" ACTION OF NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR
TO ZAMBIA WHO HAD (UNINVITED) APPEARED AT LUSAKA AIRPORT
A WEEK AGO AND INSISTED ON ACCOMPANYING MOGWE TO TOWN
AND QUESTIONING HIM FOR TWO HOURS AS TO WHY MOGWE WAS
VISITING SEOUL. THE ESSENCE OF DPRK AMBASSADOR'S LINE

WAS TO DISCOURAGE MOGWE FROM MAKING THE TRIP. MOGWE'S REACTION WAS ONE OF ASTONISHMENT AT SUCH OPEN INTERVENTION IN GOB AFFAIRS. HE ALSO REMINDED DPRK AMBASSADOR THAT PRESIDENT KHAMA HAD VISITED NORTH KOREA IN 1976; MOGWE'S VISIT TO SEOUL WAS TO BALANCE THAT VISIT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. IN VIEW OF MOGWE'S EXPRESSED INTEREST AND CONTINUING QUESTIONS ABOUT U.S. ROLE IN KOREA, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE EMINENTLY WORTH THE EFFORT OF AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO TAKE INITIATIVE TO CONTACT ROK AND ASK FOR OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT U.S. SIDE OF THE STORY ON U.S. FORCES IN KOREA.
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